

4244 NE 88th Street
Seattle, WA 98115

July 13, 1999

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FDA
Docket Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket #98N-1038 -- Irradiated food

Dear People:

I believe consumer "anxiety" about irradiated foods is entirely "appropriate" and strongly urge you to leave that wording just as it is.

I appreciate that the National Food Processors Association and some members of Congress, along with the meat processing industry, fast food corporations and supermarket chains have **big bucks** along with **political clout**. **AND** I think your agency can muster the integrity not to buckle to these factors, and to actually safeguard public health by facing facts, not money and special deals.

Facts: According the Center for Food Safety, hazards of irradiated food include the destruction of between 20% and 80% of vitamin content, increased tumors, reproductive failures and kidney damage in test animals, along with the production of toxic and carcinogenic substances in the food, as well as all the environmental hazards inherent in nuclear radiation facilities.

Do not change the label. Irradiated food is just that, and it's a public danger. What can you do instead of irradiating food? Try hiring more federal meat inspectors, cleaning up slaughter houses, quit using antibiotics to promote growth in livestock when those drugs should be reserved for treating human diseases (and there's substantial evidence that their use in livestock increases human resistance to the antibiotics).

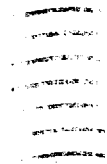
*Sincerely,
Lynn Trizan*

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